## **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Missoula recognize that all children need love, support, security, and a place to call home; and

**WHEREAS**, when birth families are unable to meet the ongoing needs of children born to them, adoptions that are humane, honest, and rooted in the understanding that adoption does not erase a child's connections to the family into which they were born are the best alternative; and

WHEREAS, some children travel from many parts of the world to join their adoptive families in Missoula, Montana; and

**WHEREAS**, some children in Missoula are in our local foster care program and live away from their birth families in substitute care, and many cannot return home and need the security and nurturing that adoptive families can provide, which is especially important for the many children with special needs; and

**WHEREAS**, birth parents in Missoula need support and adoptive parents and families who have adopted children require and deserve community and public agency respect, and support.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim, November 2019, in Missoula, Montana as:

## ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 28th day of October, in the year two thousand nineteen.



John Engen Mayor